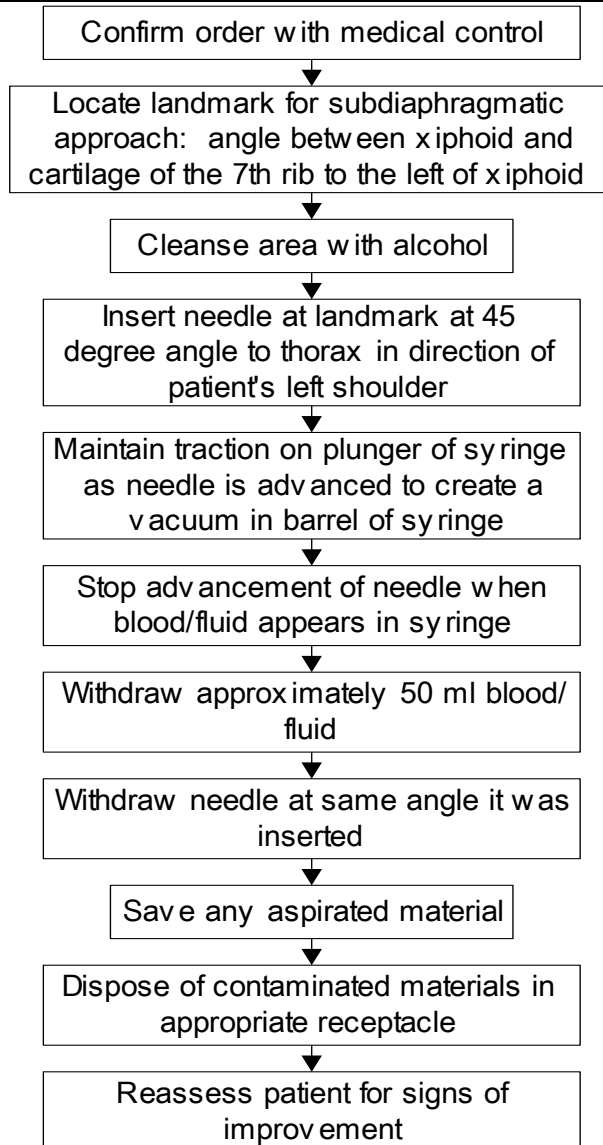


Initial: 9/92
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Revision: 2

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
PRACTICAL SKILL
PERICARDIOCENTESIS**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
Signature:
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Purpose:	Indications:	
To remove blood or fluid from the pericardial sac	Pulseless, apneic patients with signs/symptoms of pericardial tamponade	
Advantages:	Complications:	Contraindications:
Removes blood or fluid from the pericardial sac	Damage to the left anterior descending coronary artery Pneumothorax Laceration of myocardium	Any patient with pulses



NOTES:

- Signs/symptoms of pericardial tamponade are: hypotension, tachycardia, distended neck veins, narrow pulse pressure, lack of pulses with CPR.